ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides compounds which have a pyrazinone or pyridinone ring at P3 and an optionally substituted heteroaryl group at P1. These compounds have biological activity as active and potent inhibitors of thrombin. Their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, pharmaceutical compositions thereof and methods of using these compounds and pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds as therapeutic agents for treatment of disease states in mammals which are characterized by abnormal thrombosis are also described.